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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/850,219	05/07/2001	Michael Abbott	ELE006001	9606

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EXAMINER

GEREZGIHER, YEMANE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2144

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/850,219

Applicant(s)

ABBOTT, MICHAEL

Examiner

Yemane M Gerezgiher

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-10, 14-20 and 24-30 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

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**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-30 are pending.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 4-10, 14-20 and 24-30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and if the inventive entity overcomes the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection below.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In Claims 2, 12, and 22, the inventive entity recites, "the communication protocol is an electronic commerce protocol" (Page 14, Line Page 17, Line 12 and Page 19, Line 25). There is insufficient antecedent basis. No

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communication protocol has been previously defined in the claim. Claims 1, 11 and 21 recite "first communication protocol" and "second communication protocol". However, it is not clear which recitation ("first communication protocol" OR "second communication protocol") Claims 2, 12, and 22 are describing to be electronic commerce protocol.

In Claims 1, 11 and 22, the inventive entity recites "compare/comparing the selected entry..." (Page, 14, Line 16, Page 17, Line 5 and Page 19, Line 18). It is unclear what the applicant meant to encompass by making use of the term "compare/comparing". According to Webster's Dictionary, the term compare is extremely broad and indefinite. Comparing "indicates the placing together and examining of two things to discover resemblances and differences. It may but does not always concentrate on similarities rather than dissimilarities" (See attached definition Page 3, Lines 28-31). Thus, the recited term "compare" without specific steps of the comparison is indefinite. The inventive entity further recites, "selecting an entry in the second data dictionary based on comparing;" (Page 14, Line 18, Page 17, Line 7 and Page 19, Line 20). Since the "comparing" is not clearly defined in the claims, It is unclear what type of comparison is performed. See attached definition of the word "compare".

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For examination purpose, the Examiner will broadly interpret the limitations (selecting entries from the data dictionaries and comparing entries) to mean mapping the data dictionaries of different trading partners by matching an entry in one data dictionary of a trading partner with the best match entry in another data dictionary of a trading partner.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-3, 11-13 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chehade (US 20020128946 A1) in view of Penteroudakis (U.S. Patent Number 6,651,220).

As per claims 1, 11 and 21, Chehade disclosed a method and apparatus for processing messages and transmitting the messages between trading partners using different

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formats/protocols. See Figure 2 and ABSTRACT. "identify a first data dictionary for the first partner, the first data dictionary containing one or more entries, each entry including one of the first identifiers and one or more attributes of the one of the first identifiers; identify a second data dictionary for the second partner, the second data dictionary containing one or more entries, each entry including one of the second identifiers and one or more attributes of the one of the second identifiers;" See Page 2, Paragraph [0015-0016] and Paragraph [0019-0021]. (Note: identified data dictionaries specifying the formats of multiple trading partners are included in the process manager shown in figure 3). Cehade further disclosed a trading partner transmitting appropriately formatted business process data to a process management platform. See page 6, Paragraph [0056]. Cehade disclosed the invention used in the electronic commerce format (claims 2, 12 and 22). See Page 2, Paragraph [0019-0021] and page 5, Paragraph [0047]. Cehade taught data dictionaries (See Page 2, Paragraph [0015]) been used in processing different format messages having therein attributes and data identifiers (claims 3, 13 and 23). Cehade substantially disclosed the invention as claimed. However, Cehade was silent about

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matching a selected entry in the first dictionary with an entry in the second dictionary and assigning selected entry in the first data dictionary to the selected entry in the second data dictionary.

However, as evidenced by Penteroudakis selecting an entry or row of data from one dictionary or a table and comparing with another entry in a dictionary or a look-up table in translating messages using a gateway was known in the art. See Column 9, Lines 13-16, Column 14, Lines 53-67 and Column 12, Lines 24-36 [note: Penteroudakis disclosed selecting an entry from a source dictionary and searching the entries of the dictionary to match an entry with a key that matches the selected entry in the source dictionary to locate a normalized message corresponding to the selected entry]. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the teachings of Penteroudakis related to selecting entry from a dictionary and matching the selected entry with an entry in another dictionary and have modified the teachings of Chehade related to transmitting messages from one trading partner using first protocol to other trading partner using a different communication in order to facilitate translation



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of messages communicating using different communication protocols.

7. Claims 1, 11 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doolan (U.S. Patent Number 5,764,955) in view of Penteroudakis (U.S. Patent Number 6,651,220).

As per claims 1, 11 and 21 Doolan disclosed a gateway allowing two different communication networks having different protocols by "identify a first data dictionary for the first partner, the first data dictionary containing one or more entries, each entry including one of the first identifiers and one or more attributes of the one of the first identifiers; identify a second data dictionary for the second partner, the second data dictionary containing one or more entries, each entry including one of the second identifiers and one or more attributes of the one of the second identifiers;" (See Abstract, Figure 5, Column 11, Line 65 through Column 12, Line 12, Doolan disclosed a gateway comprising at least two different vendor networks having different protocols communicating/transmitting messages having therein plurality of data dictionaries containing attributes, identifiers and mapping messages from one type

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of network to another according to the first and second dictionaries). The mapper, mapping files shown in Figure 5 is specific translation map for translating a first message to another message according to the first and second dictionaries shown in Figure 5. Doolan further disclosed the mapping of messages from one protocol to another as follows:

A gateway according to the present invention receives a first message from the source. The first message being in a first syntax and identifying a particular one of the network elements. The gateway selects a dictionary from a plurality of dictionaries in response to the identification of the network element, maps the first message into at least a second message in response to the selected dictionary, and transmits the second message to the identified network element. The second message is in the respective element syntax associated with the identified network element. See Column 4, Lines 48-57.

Doolan substantially disclosed the invention as claimed, however Doolan was silent about matching a selected entry in the first dictionary with each entry in the second dictionary and assigning selected entry in the first data

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dictionary to the selected entry in the second data dictionary.

However, as evidenced by Penteroudakis selecting an entry or row of data from one dictionary or a table and comparing with another entry in a dictionary or a look-up table in translating messages using a gateway was known in the art. See Column 9, Lines 13-16, Column 14, Lines 53-67 and Column 12, Lines 24-36 [note: Penteroudakis disclosed selecting an entry from a source dictionary and searching the entries of the dictionary to match an entry with a key that matches the selected entry in the source dictionary to locate a normalized message corresponding to the selected entry]. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the teachings of Penteroudakis related to selecting entry from a dictionary and matching the selected entry with an entry in another dictionary and have modified the teachings of Doolan related to transmitting messages of network elements using first protocol to other network elements using a different protocol in order to facilitate translation of messages communicating using different communication protocols.

### ***Conclusion***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

a. Hardjono, Thomas et al. (US 6725276 B1)

"Apparatus and method for authenticating messages transmitted across different multicast domains"

b. Sabelhaus, Michael G. et al. (US 6708207 B1)

"Method and system for managing multiple management protocols in a network element"

c. Shteyn, Yevgeniy Eugene (US 6618764 B1) "Method for enabling interaction between two home networks of different software architectures"

d. Schwarzhoff, Kelly et al. (US 6591260 B1) "Method of retrieving schemas for interpreting documents in an electronic commerce system"

e. Webber, David R. R. (US 6418400 B1)

"Representation and processing of EDI mapping templates"

f. Knauss, Daniel E. et al. (US 20020083099 A1)

"Document/message management

g. Richards, Frederick R. (US 6408303 B1) System and method for automated building of a trading partner profile

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h. Guck, Randal L. et al. (US 6230201 B1)

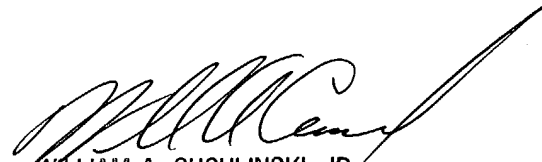
"Configurable transaction routing system and method"

i. Jackson, Angela G. (US 4951196 A) "Method and apparatus for electronic data interchange"

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Yemane Gerezgiher whose telephone number is 703-305-4874 or (571) 272-3925 effective October 27, 2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful. The examiner's supervisor, William Cuchlinski, can be reached at (703) 308-3873 or (571) 272-3925 effective October 27, 2004.

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AU 2144

  
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